

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3576
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2002
T.V. SERIALS ON POLITICIANS
KANTI SINGH

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the T.V. serials telecast by private T.V. channels are not subject to clearance of the Censor Board;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the T.V. serials made on the personal life of politicians are being depicting so shabbily and not commensurate with the taste of their political and public life;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government propose to bring any guideline for such T.V. serials in future; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (f): The programmes of private satellite channels when transmitted through the Cable Network are required to adhere to the Programme Code prescribed under the Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act 1995 and rules framed thereunder. The Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee to take cognisance, suo moto, or on specific complaints or otherwise regarding any programme of any channel not in conformity with the prescribed Code. In so far as Doordarshan is concerned, Prasar Bharati has intimated that Doordarshan takes all care not to produce or telecast any shabby programmes, on political personalities or otherwise. As regards private satellite channels, the Programme Code prohibits, inter-alia, carriage of such programmes in the cable service, which criticise, malign or slander any individual in person or certain groups, segments of social, public and moral life of the country, or contain anything defamatory.